

Dear Sirs and Madames,
This recent move by Sinclair Broadcasting is a sign of all that is wrong with how things are going with the media. If permitted to get away with this fiasco, Sinclair Broadcasting will be using public airwaves for political purposes with no intention of airing the other side of the issue. This is against FCC rules as far as I can tell.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy -- made worse still by the fact that the money is directly or indirectly coming from our government. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. More important even than that, is that the "News" we see is factual and unbiased.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Please do everything in your power to keep Sinclair Broadcasting from going against their duty to create programming that is appropriate and useful to the public. And please sanction them in every way possible for turning their back on the FCC and the public.

Thank you.